



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
Tuesday, August 13, 2002

BORSTAR Agents Rescue Group Near IN-KO-PAH

OCOTILLO, California. – Yesterday, El Centro Sector BORSTAR agents rescued 21 migrants in the Boulder Creek area after a concerned citizen reported seeing 2 females in distress.

The rescue mission was initiated at approximately 10:00 am after receiving the information. BORSTAR responded to the area in an attempt to locate the females. El Centro Sector Air Operations and Grupo Beta were notified of the situation and a coordinated effort began to rescue the females.

BORSTAR initiated a search for the females by backtracking the path they had taken northbound. During the search a group of five migrants, who were traveling afoot in the same area, were found to be suffering from advanced stages of dehydration. This group of five had to be carried down the mountain to awaiting medical personnel. Moments later, a group of 16 individuals were found in the same area. All of the individuals in this group were out of water and suffering from varying stages of dehydration. Of the 21 migrants rescued none matched the description of the two original females.

The search for the two missing females was resumed and is under way at this time.

As valley temperatures rise the possibility of incidents like these occurring increase. The Border Patrol would like to remind the public to please report any persons who are missing or appear to be in danger by calling the El Centro Sector toll free number at 1-800-901-2003.

-- USBP --

VIDEO AVAILABLE

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